

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present application has been reviewed in light of the Final Office Action mailed April 16, 2004. Claims 5, 12, 16 and 19-27 are currently pending in the application, claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-15, 17 and 18 having been canceled herein, and claims 5, 12, 16 and 19-25 having been amended herein. Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

It is acknowledged and greatly appreciated that the Examiner has indicated that claims 22-27 are allowed.

The specification has been objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter, in particular, the intersecting elements, and the vertical element portions.

Each of the claims reciting the intersecting elements and/or the vertical element portions, has been canceled herein.

Accordingly, in view of the cancellation of the claims reciting the intersecting elements and/or the vertical element portions, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's objection of the specification has been overcome.

The drawings have been objected to as failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims, in particular, the support member, the intersecting elements, and the vertical element portions.

Each of the claims reciting the support member, the intersecting elements and/or the vertical element portions, has been canceled and/or amended herein.

Accordingly, in view of the cancellation and/or amendment of the claims reciting the support member, the intersecting elements and/or the vertical element portions, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiners objection of the drawings has been overcome.

Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,531,410 to Simon. Since claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-15, 17 and 18 have been canceled herein, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-15, 17 and 18, under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,531,410 to Simon, has been rendered moot.

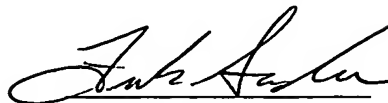
Claims 5, 12, 16 and 19-21 have been amended herein, as indicated in the Listing of Claims presented above, in a manner such that claims 5, 12, 16 and 19-21 depend, directly or indirectly from allowed claim 22. Accordingly, claims 5, 12, 16 and 19-21 are also allowable. As such, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 5, 12, 16 and 19-21, under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,531,410 to Simon, has been overcome.

In view of the amendments made to the claims, and in view of the remarks presented above, it is respectfully submitted that the objections to the specification and drawings, and each of the rejections of the claims in the present Office Action has been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview may facilitate prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative at the number indicated below.

An early and favorable response is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Francesco Sardone', written over a horizontal line.

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